

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A method of regulating traffic in a transport system in which vehicles travel on a line provided with a plurality of stations at which passengers can board and alight, ~~wherein the~~ running of the vehicles ~~is~~being regulated as a function of ~~the~~a passenger load on said vehicles, ~~said load being determined by measuring the weight of passengers present in the vehicles,~~ the method comprising:

monitoring the passenger load on the vehicles by measuring a weight of the passengers in the vehicles;

detecting whether each vehicle is in an overloaded state by comparing the weight of passengers as measured with an overload threshold assigned to each vehicle; and

modifying the running of the vehicles traveling on the line by acting at each station at which an overloaded vehicle arrives to reduce a time interval between a departure of the overloaded vehicle and the departure of a preceding vehicle.

2. A method of regulating traffic in a transport system according to claim 1, wherein the weight of passengers present in the vehicles is measured by means of load sensors equipping the bogies of the vehicles.

3 - 4. (canceled).

5. A method of regulating traffic according to claim-~~3~~1, wherein, when no vehicle is in ~~the~~an overloaded state, the ~~traffic~~running of the vehicles is regulated as a function of time so that the vehicles are separated by a constant time interval, ~~the~~a lapse of time for which the vehicles stop in the stations also being constant.

6. A method of regulating traffic according to claim-~~[[4]]~~1, wherein, when a vehicle is in ~~the~~an overloaded state at a station, ~~the~~a speed of said vehicle is accelerated to ~~the~~a next station so that it leaves said next station early relative to ~~an~~the initially scheduled time, the vehicle then being slowed down during its journey to ~~the~~a following station so as to leave said following station at the initially scheduled time.

7. A method of regulating traffic according to claim ~~[[4]]~~1, wherein, when a vehicle is in ~~the~~an overloaded state at a station, ~~a~~the lapse of time for which ~~a~~the vehicle preceding the overloaded vehicle stops is increased at ~~the~~a next station so that the vehicle leaves said next station late relative to ~~an~~the initially scheduled time, the speed of the vehicle then being increased during its journey to ~~the~~a following station so that it leaves said following station at the initially scheduled time.